

St. Joseph's Parish

760 St. David Street North, Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K9
Tel: 519-843-2006 Email: stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com
Web Page: www.stjosephfergus.org



PASTOR: Fr. Robert Héту, P.P.

DEACON: Rev. Mr. Trevor Klein

SECRETARY: Mrs. Lori Cipparrone

CUSTODIAN: Mr. Kevin Shea

SACRISTANS: Brigitte Quinke & Catherine Cyr.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Parish Secretary will be available
Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday-Friday 8:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays from 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Saturdays from 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS

All week 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the chapel all day

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK

If you know of a parishioner sick at home or in hospital, please contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Please speak with with Deacon Trevor Klein after Sunday Masses before setting date for Baptism. There are no baptisms during Lent.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

We encourage everyone who regularly attends St. Joseph's to become a registered member. Please fill out a registration form found at the main door and deposit it in the collection basket.

Sunday offering envelopes are available on request.

Please inform the parish office of any changes of address or telephone number.

PRIESTHOOD/RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you think God may be calling you to the vocation of Priesthood or Religious Life, please feel free to speak with Fr. Robert Héту or contact our Diocesan Vocation Director at 1-905-528-7988.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Diocese of Hamilton requires one year notice before a marriage date can be set. A Marriage Preparation Weekend is also required.

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Robert Héту



Today is *Sunday of the Word of God*. It is more often, in the Diocese of Hamilton, called *Bible Sunday*. In 2020, Pope Francis declared that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time was to be devoted to the celebration, study, and dissemination of the Word of God "that the life of our people be constantly marked by this decisive relationship with the living Word that the Lord never tires of speaking to his Bride." (*Aperuit Illis*, 2)

Pope Francis says, we need God's Word, so, that we can hear, amid the thousands of other words in our daily lives, that one Word that speaks to us not about things, but about life. Pope Francis reminds us that "the word of God should be read daily and kept at hand even on our cellphones." This week, we celebrated two Bible blessings and shared the Bible with the grade 5 and grade 4 students at St. Joseph School.

I leave with you my poem entitled ***The Bible*** I wrote over twenty years ago.

The greatest book ever written
Is the Word of God—the Bible
History of the Jewish people and their children
Is in the Word of God—the Bible

Adam and Eve and stories of all great creations
Are in the Word of God—the Bible
Wisdom Books, Prophets, Psalms and
Lamentations
Are in the Word of God—the Bible

The quartet of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
Is in the Word of God—the Bible
How salvation for us Jesus won
Is in the Word of God—the Bible

The letters of the great Apostle Paul
Are in the Word of God—the Bible
The directions to heaven for us all
Are in the Word of God—the Bible

All we need to know and teach our children
Is in the Word of God—the Bible
Yes, the greatest book ever written
Is the Word of God—the Bible

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: [T]he celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God [Bible Sunday] has ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity." ~ Pope Francis



Welcome to St. Joseph's Parish
We extend a warm welcome to all.
We pray that you feel at home.
Please introduce yourself and
Consider becoming a member
of our Family of Faith.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

7:00pm **Gordon Taverner** – The Cipparrone Family

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

8:30am **Intentions of Steve Martin** – Mary Epoch

Thursday, January 25, 2024

8:30am **Intentions of Stacey Green** – Mary Epoch

Friday, January 26, 2024

8:30am **Grace McFadden** – Tove Schmidt

Saturday, January 27, 2024

5:00pm **The Leunessen Family** – Margaret Duffield

Intentions of Flora Hetherington – Mary Epoch

Sharon Nicklasson – Mary Epoch

Intentions of Alf Fischer – Don & Barbara Cassidy

Sunday, January 28, 2024

9:00am **Marie Loretta Bordignon** – Lynn & Eugene Kraemer

11:00am **Intentions of the Parish**

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 21, 2024

The call of the disciples is so familiar to us that we tend to miss the wonder of the disciples' response, which was immediate and complete; they leave everything and follow Jesus. Can we do less if we feel that God is calling us to the priesthood, religious life or diaconate? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call **Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988,**

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Offerings

Your contributions for January 13 & 14, 2024:

Regular Offerings	\$1,455.00
Christmas Floral Tribute	\$ 180.00
Initial Offering	\$ 260.00
Seminary Appeal	\$1,380.00

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: The Bible is not always serious. "*Now Sarah said, 'God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.'*" (Genesis 21:6) Let us rejoice and laugh with the Lord and each other.



Anointing of the Sick Mass

Fr. Robert invites everyone to join him on February 10th at 11am on the World Day of the Sick, to receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Anyone of the faithful can receive this sacrament if they are ill physically, mentally or spiritually. You can also receive the sacrament before surgery. There is no age limit or restrictions on the number of times you can receive this sacrament. Following Mass you are invited to join Fr. Robert and fellow parishioners for lunch. Registration Forms were inserted into last weekend's bulletin, and extras are available in the Narthex

Young Adults Night — Waterloo Saturday, February 3rd

Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night and vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, February 3rd at St. Michael's Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

The Injustice of Abortion

**Thursday, January 25, 2024, 7:30 pm
Sacred Heart Church, 98 Alice St, Guelph.
(Enter through Huron St door.)**

For too long abortion has been dismissed as a personal choice leaving women and men suffering in silence while babies are killed before birth across Canada. On January 25, you are invited to attend The Injustice of Abortion, a free pro-life presentation provided by Guelph & Area Right to Life. During this presentation you will learn about abortion as a human rights violation, keys to effectively dialoging about the issue and how you can help bring hope to those hurting from the trauma of abortion.

St. Joseph's Parish CWL 100th Anniversary Celebration - March 14, 2024

Mass at 5pm Main Celebrant: Bishop Crosby
Catered Dinner at 6pm Tickets will be on sale for \$35 per person beginning on February 3, after Masses. CWL members and a spouse or guest are invited to join the celebration.

40 Days for Life

Mass with Bishop Lobsinger

40 Days for Life is a 40 day prayer vigil to pray for the ending of abortion which takes place from February 14 to March 28, 2024. On Wednesday, March 27, you are invited to attend a special 40 Days for Life Mass with Bishop Lobsinger. All are welcome to attend and to pray for this pro-life effort. The Mass will take place at 7pm at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph.

Michael House has Positions to Fill

Michael House is currently seeking to fill some positions and invite anyone who might be interested to visit michaelhouse.ca

The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is now available online at hamiltondiocese.com.

The Ministerial Of Centre Wellington

will be holding a worship gathering celebrating the unity of Christians in Jesus Christ regardless of denomination or congregation. The worship gathering will take place on Tues., Jan. 23 at 10:30 am in the Aboyne Room at the Wellington County Museum. The theme is "Loving God and loving neighbour." There will be singing, prayers, Bible reading and reflections on the Bible reading. All are welcome to join in this celebration. For more information contact Peter Bush at 519-843-3565 or peter.bush@wightman.ca

Upcoming Parish Events

January 23	Knights of Columbus General Meeting after 7pm Mass
January 31	St. Vincent de Paul, 4pm
February 3	Baptismal Prep Class 9am to 11am
February 4	Knights of Columbus Charity Breakfast
February 10	Anointing of the Sick Mass & Lunch am
February 14	Ash Wednesday
February 21	Caressant Care Mass 2:00pm
March 14	CWL 100 th Anniversary Celebration

PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord God,
creator of heaven and earth,
for your Word made flesh: Jesus Christ.

We praise and thank you
for your Word recorded in the Bible
and faithfully proclaimed
in the assembly of your holy people.

May our hearts and minds be always open
to welcome your life-giving Word.

May your Word nourish our faith,
enliven our hope, and strengthen us
in the bond of love.

May we carry your word with us each day
as we seek to serve you in our brothers and sisters.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



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#TheBibleSpeaks

#WeListen

hamiltondiocese.com/thebiblespeaks

BIBLE SUNDAY

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

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Prayer before reading scripture: 🔍

🙌 Father,
I thank you for the gift of
your Word.

Open my heart:
Let your Spirit speak to me
As I read your living word.

Prayer after reading scripture: 🔍

🙌 Father,
I thank you for speaking to
me through your Word.

May your Word be a lamp
for my steps.



When we read the Bible, we ask: 🔍

- 🔍 What does it say?
- 🔍 What does it mean?
- 🔍 What does it mean to me?
- 🔍 What am I going to do about it?

#WELISTEN



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